CLAIMS

1. Method of decorating an article, comprising a step that consists of preparing a transfer sheet by printing it with at least one heat-activated ink, a transfer step consisting of applying said sheet to the article to be decorated, and then heating this assembly, characterised in that said transfer sheet is made up of a flocked material and in that it comprises a transfer step in which the transfer sheet forms a watertight envelope around the article to be decorated, which is connected to a depression spring.

2. Method of decorating an article according to claim 1, characterised in that said flocked material is a flocked elastomer.

3. Method of decorating an article according to claim 1, characterised in that said flocked material is a flocked natural latex.

4. Method of decorating an article according to claim 1, characterised in that said flocked material consists of a flocked synthetic latex.

5. Method of decorating an article according to claim 1, characterised in that said flocked material consists of a sheet of flocked natural polyisoprene.

6. Method of decorating an article according to claim 1, characterised in that said flocked material consists of a sheet of flocked natural polyisoprene.

7. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the flocks consist of cotton fibres.

8. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the claims from 1 to 6, characterised in that the flocks consist of viscose fibres.

9. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the claims from 1 to 6, characterised in that the flocks consist of polyamide fibres.

10. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the claims from 1 to 6, characterised in that the flocks consist of acrylic fibres.

11. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the claims from 1 to 6, characterised in that the flocks consist of polyester fibres.

12. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the heat-activated ink is a sublimable ink.

13. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the claims from 1 to 11, characterised in that the heat-activated ink is of the "thermofusible" type.

14. Method of decorating an article according to at least one of the claims from 1 to 13, characterised in that the heating in order to activate the ink during the transfer step is assured by immersion in an alloy of nonferrous metals.

15. Method of decorating an article according to the preceding claim, characterised in that the heating to activate the ink during the transfer step is assured by immersion in an alloy consisting of bismuth, lead, tin and cadmium (Bi 50%, Pb 25%, Sn 12.5%, Cd 12.5%), which has a melting point of around 70°C, maintained at a temperature of around 190°C.

16. Transfer sheet for implementing the method according to claim 1, characterised in that it consists of a flocked material.

17. Transfer sheet for implementing the method according to claim 1, characterised in that it consists of a flocked elastomer.

18. Transfer sheet for implementing the method according to claim 1, characterised in that it consists of a flocked natural latex.

19. Transfer sheet for implementing the method according to claim 1, characterised in that it consists of a flocked synthetic latex.

20. Transfer sheet for implementing the method according to claim 1, characterised in that it consists of a sheet of flocked natural polyisoprene.

21. Transfer sheet according to at least one of the claims from 17 to 20, characterised in that the flocks consist of cotton fibres.

22. Transfer sheet according to at least one of the claims from 17 to 20, characterised in that the flocks consist of viscose fibres.

23. Transfer sheet according to at least one of the claims from 17 to 20, characterised in that the flocks consist of polyamide fibres.

24. Transfer sheet according to at least one of the claims from 17 to 20, characterised in that the flocks consist of acrylic fibres.

25. Transfer sheet according to at least one of the claims from 17 to 20, characterised in that the flocks consist of polyester fibres.